

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

KAWAZOE et al.

Atty. Docket No. 100021-00136

Serial No.: not yet assigned

(Divisional of USSN 09/147,441, filed March 2, 1999)

Filed: Concurrently Herewith

For: PROCESS FOR PRODUCTION OF MODIFIED CARBON BLACK FOR RUBBER REINFORCEMENT AND PROCESS OF PRODUCTION OF RUBBER COMPOSITION CONTAINING MODIFIED CARBON BLACK

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Director of the U.S. PTO  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

December 2, 2003

Sir:

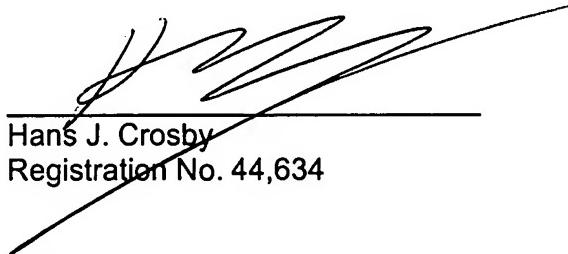
Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the information item(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each item(s) is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the item(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application, OR (c) accompanies a Request for Continued Examination. No certification or fee is required.
- 2. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance.
  - a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).
  - b. I hereby certify that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign

patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(2).

- c. A check in the amount of \$180.00 in payment of the fee under 37 CFR §1.17(p). Please charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 01-2300 as needed to ensure consideration of the disclosed information.
- 3. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the Issue Fee. Applicant(s) hereby petition(s) that the Information Disclosure Statement be considered. Attached is our check in the amount of \$180.00 in payment of the petition fee under 37 CFR §1.17(i)(1). Please charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 01-2300 as needed to ensure consideration of the disclosed information.
- a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).
- b. I hereby certify that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(2).
- 4. The references were cited by or submitted to the Office in parent application No. 09/147,441, filed March 2, 1999, which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120. Thus, copies of these references are not attached. 37 CFR § 1.98(d).

Respectfully submitted,



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|---|--|--|---------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| FORM PTO-1449   |  | U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE<br>PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE |                           | ATTY. DOCKET NO.<br>100021-00136 | SERIAL NO.<br>not yet assigned |
| LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT<br><i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i> |  | APPLICANT<br>KAWAZOE et al.                                |                           |                                  |                                |
|   |  | FILING DATE<br>December 4, 2003                            | GROUP<br>not yet assigned |                                  |                                |

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER INITIAL |    | DOCUMENT NO. | DATE  | NAME            | CLASS | SUB-CLASS | FILING DATE |
|------------------|----|--------------|-------|-----------------|-------|-----------|-------------|
|                  | AA | 3,390,006    | 06/68 | TAKEWELL et al. |       |           |             |
|                  | AB | 2,457,962    | 01/49 | WHALEY          |       |           |             |
|                  | AC | 4,430,280    | 02/84 | KREHER et al.   |       |           |             |
|                  | AD |              |       |                 |       |           |             |
|                  | AE |              |       |                 |       |           |             |
|                  | AF |              |       |                 |       |           |             |

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

|  |    | DOCUMENT NO. | DATE     | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUB-CLASS | TRANSLATION<br>YES NO PART. |
|--|----|--------------|----------|---------|-------|-----------|-----------------------------|
|  | AG | 5-132307     | 05/28/93 | JAPAN   |       |           |                             |
|  | AH | 6-210631     | 08/02/94 | JAPAN   |       |           |                             |
|  | AI | 9-118780     | 05/06/97 | JAPAN   |       |           |                             |
|  | AJ | 10-25428     | 01/27/98 | JAPAN   |       |           |                             |
|  | AK | 9-118781     | 05/06/97 | JAPAN   |       |           |                             |
|  | AL | 9-296071     | 11/18/97 | JAPAN   |       |           |                             |
|  | AM | 8-277347     | 10/22/96 | JAPAN   |       |           |                             |
|  | AN | 10-30066     | 02/03/98 | JAPAN   |       |           |                             |
|  | AO |              |          |         |       |           |                             |

|          |                 |
|----------|-----------------|
| EXAMINER | DATE CONSIDERED |
|----------|-----------------|

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.